

862.C2023



PATENT APPLICATION

2852

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re Application of: )  
HIROSHI KABURAGI, et al. )  
Application No.: 09/678,297 )  
Filed: October 3, 2000 )  
For: IMAGE PROCESSING METHOD )  
AND APPARATUS : January 4, 2001

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Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants respectfully direct the Examiner's attention to the documents listed below and on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. A copy of each document so listed is enclosed.

U.S. Patent No. 5,121,446  
U.S. Patent No. 5,577,136  
U.S. Patent No. 5,777,759  
U.S. Patent No. 5,825,940

R.W. Floyd and L. Steinberg, "An Adaptive Algorithm for Spatial Grey Scale", SID Int. Sym. Digest of Tech. Papers, p. 36-37 (1975).

The Examiner's attention is also directed to the following U.S. Applications:

| <u>APPLICATION NO.</u> | <u>FILING DATE</u> | <u>GROUP ART UNIT</u> |
|------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| 09/318,600             | May 26, 1999       | 2721                  |
| 09/210,549             | December 14, 1998  | 2721                  |

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2)(iii), a copy of the application specification, claims and drawings for each of the foregoing U.S. Applications is enclosed.

It is noted that all art currently of record in each of the foregoing co-pending U.S. applications has also been listed in this Information Disclosure Statement.

Additionally, the claims provided with each of the foregoing applications are as currently pending in those applications and all amendments to the claims, if any, are included.

Inasmuch as this application has not yet received a first Office Action on the merits, it is believed that this Information Disclosure Statement is timely. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3). Accordingly, the Examiner is urged to study this information in its entirety and to form an independent determination of the materiality of the information to the claimed invention. Additionally, the Examiner is requested to indicate that this information has been considered by initialing the appropriate portion of Form PTO-1449.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office by telephone at (714) 540-

8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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